

# HIGH ADVENTURE



**EAGLE ROCK, MO**  
**July 15-19, 2002**



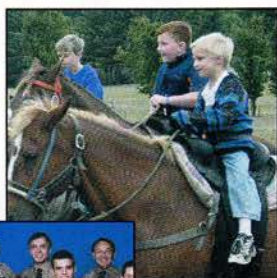
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# HIGH ADVENTURE



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Jackie Shepherd watched the Grand Canyon Special chug up to the highway where he and all the other challengers waited on their bicycles. Snorting and blowing steam into the cold morning air, the ancient locomotive looked as out of place as Jackie felt.

He glanced at the other riders around him. All decked out in their padded shorts and colorful T-shirts, they sat astride their 21-speed racers. Wearing cut-off jeans and a tattered long-sleeve shirt, Jackie figured he stood out like a pig in church. Even his bike didn't fit in—a 10-speed Schwinn, old and heavy.

A group of teenagers lined up just in front of him kept looking back and snickering. From the logo on their shirts, he knew they were a bicycle club from Phoenix. A kid with a big red "1" on his chest shouted, "Think you'll ace this race?"

"You bet," Jackie said.

The others laughed like he'd just cracked the world's funniest joke.

Leaning down to double-tie his right tennis shoe, Jackie glimpsed his reflection on the wet pavement. The black hair extending below the back of his helmet made him look more like a warrior than a Navajo teen.

A loud whistle from the locomotive signaled the start of the 60-mile race. The Grand Canyon Special belched black smoke over the pines as it pulled out of the station. On the highway the pack of cyclists set off to meet the challenge. Jackie spotted an opening and bolted through. Right now the wide tires helped with traction, but when the pavement dried they'd slow him down. His bicycle had seen better days, but he'd trained for months at the 7,000-foot elevation.

Jackie concentrated on creating a solid lead, and only when he thought no one was breathing down his neck did he dare glance back. Most of the riders were spread out over a quarter of a mile, but Jackie saw Number One about 50 feet behind and gaining.

Coming alongside, he called out, "You live around here?"

Jackie nodded. "Tuba City."

"Take second," the other boy ordered, pulling ahead.

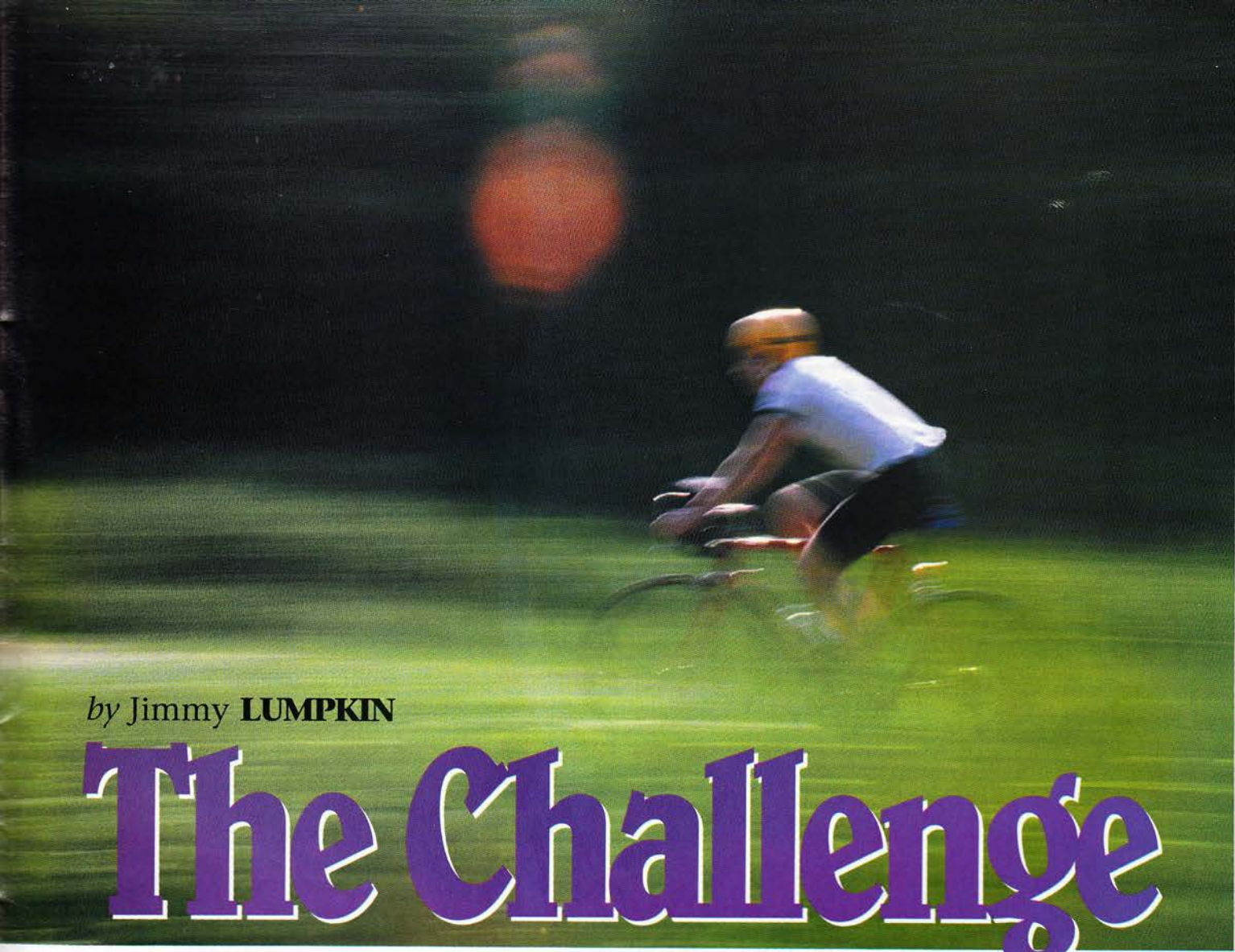
Soon two other cyclists passed Jackie, both red-faced and puffing like the steam locomotive. He spotted the train a half-mile west, snorting across the grassy plains with its carloads of tourists almost hidden by the black smoke.

Topping the next ridge, Jackie found the race leaders waiting as a river of sheep flowed slowly across the highway. Picking up his bicycle, Jackie charged through the sagebrush.

"Hope there ain't no snakes," he heard someone behind him call. Flanking the flock, Jackie and the boy with the Number One shirt cut back to the black-top and rode side by side.

The sun peeked out of the clouds and reflected off his silver WWJD (What would Jesus do?) bracelet with turquoise stones at each end. It was a gift from his father, proud of Jackie for fixing up this swap-meet





by Jimmy LUMPKIN

# The Challenge

junker of a bicycle. Jackie rode it 10 miles to school most days and even further to church on Sundays. "Enter it in the race against the steamer," his father had suggested, and Jackie accepted the challenge.

He sped ahead.

"I can't let you do that," said the other teen, pedaling furiously into the lead.

As juniper gave way to the massive ponderosa, the boys began the long climb to the rim. About halfway up the grade, Jackie passed his competitor, who was gasping for breath. But he recovered on the plateau and again passed Jackie.

Suddenly turning off the road that wound through Grand Canyon Village, Jackie cut down a gravel lane and intercepted the track. He charged up the bike trail and passed the train, which had slowed down for town.

Tourists hung out the windows, waving and cheering. But even above that commotion, Jackie

heard, "Move Over!" and looked back. He was about to be run over by Number One.

"No!" Jackie yelled. "There's no room."

The other teen edged by him anyway and clobbered a post. As Jackie watched in horror, rider and machine rocketed into the air and dropped into a tangled mess.

Jackie skidded to a stop and ran back to where the boy lay groaning, blood from a shoulder cut seeping through his shirt.

When he saw Jackie kneeling beside him, he yelled, "Get out of here. Go! Go! You can still win."

Instead, Jackie yanked a bandanna from his hip pocket and pressed it against the wound. His WWJD bracelet sparkled in the sunlight. He

knew the race would have to wait until another day. Right now he'd faced a greater challenge and won.

**As juniper gave way to the massive ponderosa, the boys began the long climb to the rim.**



# From Inner City to Inner Peace!

by Nestor REYES

## Testimonial

I was brought up in a Christian home in the inner city of Paterson, N.J. As a young child I grew up in a project building on Graham Avenue—now called Martin Luther King Drive—in an area where drugs, gangs, alcohol, and gambling were commonplace. I was abused physically and mentally, and was introduced to drugs by age 9. This occurred while living in a Christian home. Because of my Christian family environment everyone assumed my life was happy, but every night I wanted to end my life because of the frequent abuse.



In my mind I hated everyone and everyone hated me. I got beat up every day at school because I was a Christian and was taught not to fight back because Jesus would protect me. After being beat up, spit on and made fun of, I rebelled during the seventh grade. At the age of 12, I began to plot how to kill my parents and one other person for the abuses I endured. I blamed God for my circumstances, because I believed that living in a Christian home should be better.

During the time I was planning this deadly scheme, I was still in the Royal Rangers program at church. The one thing that made me feel better through the week was the Friday evening Royal Rangers meetings. I still remember my earliest Buckaroos Commander Luis Baez, and my senior commander of Outpost 85, Juan Aponte. The senior commander was not afraid to show us discipline, yet at the same time display his love for us.

Commander Aponte would drive us to Garret Mount near Paterson, where he would introduce us to a different world—a world where trees existed; where I could be myself and no one would make fun of me. He would also take us to a park in South Jersey where my world would dramatically change for 3 days, and I could escape the pressures of school, gangs, and drugs that were taking control of my life.

As I grew, my relationship with the Lord suffered. I let anger and hurt get the best of me. To complicate things, Commander Aponte was serving in pastoral ministry, and my "protector" was no longer there. God was faithful! He provided Senior Pastor Benjamin Zayas, a highly motivated Royal Rangers supporter. Rev. Zayas would come to the park in his Ranger uniform and play sports with us. He played like one of us, and we wouldn't have known he was a pastor until we noticed the cross on his shirt.

I still did not have a right relationship with the Lord in high school and was trying to be "the man." The Lord protected me at this time, because I was scared to go home and face the consequences. When I did get in trouble, Pastor Benny would be there for me every time. I remember one time I was going to cut classes, and Pastor showed up and said these words to me: "I'm watching you!" Those words, even today, make a difference in my life. Pastor Benny was the instrument God used to release the anger and pain in my life. I shared the plot to kill my parents with him, and he counseled me to release the anger and hurt in my life.

Since I still did not have a relationship with Christ, I continued to "play church." While playing church I was the biggest "wannabe" gang member you could ever imagine—tough and bad on the outside, yet I was scared on the inside. I would carry air rifles to school in case I got into a fight. My friends and I developed a "wannabe" gang so real gangs would not mess with us.

I graduated from high school and no longer desired church, totally rebelling against God to the extent of becoming an atheist. During this time I still remembered Pastor Benny's words, "I'm watching you!" How I hated them.

I began dealing drugs with a friend who was making money while I remained broke. It was the third Sunday in September, 1988, when my mom invited me to go to a special church service with Pastor, and I went. God spoke to my heart, and I gave him my soul and everything I had—my hurt, pain, sorrow, and anger. Thank you Jesus!

Because of Royal Rangers I am able to share this testimony. At the age of 21, I went to Leadership Training Camp (LTC) and began working in Outpost 85 at my home church. I then moved and started a Royal Rangers program at Temple Emmanuel in Lorain, Ohio. We began the program with only 20 boys, but by the end of the summer the Lord had multiplied it to 75 boys, all from gangs and broken homes.

I eventually returned to New Jersey where the demographics of Paterson had changed. I became the senior commander of Outpost 85, and again, God moved in an awesome fashion using ethnic diversity to bring these inner-city kids together. He multiplied the boys from 30 to 60 attending each week.

I wrote this article to encourage commanders in the inner cities to change their boys' world through prayer and hands-on communication and through the vehicle of Royal Rangers. I am living proof that the Word of God does not go void.

In closing, I would like to thank Pastor Benjamin Zayas for not giving up on me and Commander Juan Aponte for his loving discipline. Above everything, I thank my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for blessing me above and beyond measure. Also, I would like to thank Brother Jerry Parks for the opportunity to share this testimony of what boys need. They need a few good men who love God above all and have a desire to see boys live for the Lord. God took me from the inner city to an inner peace as a Royal Ranger.



Gold Medal Achievement Essays...

by Patrick BOULAY

Imagine a world that is dark and cold. The air is heavy and thick. Everywhere you look is trash and graffiti. Hate and fear are constant emotions. Death and bigotry are prominent. Students are afraid to walk the halls of their schools because hate runs rampant. This "fantasy" world is real. This world is one of pain and suffering, one that lacks love. This is a world that does not believe in the values of the Royal Rangers program; this is the world that the children, our children, are going to inherit.

The values of the Royal Rangers are something I hold very dear. They give me proof that there is still good in this world, some hope for the future. The adults are the ones who are ruling this world and who are making all the choices for us. We can not do very much to help them. How-

## The Value

ever, as the saying goes, "The kids are the future." If we can mold the children, ensconce the feelings of love, belonging, and brotherhood into their daily lives, the future might not be so dim. This is what the Royal Rangers program does. It is a program made to "reach, teach, and keep boys for Christ." The Royal Rangers program makes some of the future leaders of the world, and if we can find more boys and show them these things (love, brotherhood, belonging), the world would benefit.

I could have been just another kid on the streets. Another kid with no real future except for becoming a leech on society or maybe, if I'm lucky, hold a job flipping burgers. However, Royal Rangers has given me tools that I use in my everyday life, tools that have kept me off the streets, tools that have made me the man that I am. It gave me values, morals, a sense of accomplishment, and, most important of all, it gave me a personal relationship with the Lord.

A personal relationship with the Lord is important, but I have been given other gifts, ones that I treasure almost as greatly. I was always a fast learner, more so than the others in my class. Because of this I



would become irritable when the teachers would be teaching subtraction for the third week in a row when I knew it the first day they taught it. I got angry and bored with the fact that I already knew all this stuff, so I would write notes to myself, hum to myself, and simply annoy others. However, involvement in the Royal Rangers program helped me control my feelings and have more patience with others. This was because the boys in the program were more devoted to the cause and effect of what they were doing or learning than the kids in school. This was a pleasurable environment for me. I asked myself why school was not like this. I decided to make school this fun. It worked. My attitude and temperament became more tolerable, and then admirable.

I have always been a social outcast. I have always been too tall or too clumsy or too odd to be considered someone that one could appreciate being caught talking to. I kept my feelings, thoughts, and ideas to myself. I was quiet, sedentary, and pompous. I was superior to those around me (or so I thought). I always had the answer. But, when I entered the Royal Rangers program, I became an equal—if not an inferior. I learned how to learn from others. I allowed my pride to be shattered.

Royal Rangers, though, is not about the individual. This program trains young men such as myself to give ourselves up to help others, to help young boys. The Royal Rangers program has been a vital part of my life and my upbringing. Because of this program, I am a leader, not a follower, and I can distinguish a good choice from a bad one. Because of this program, I can touch someone's life.

**Patrick Boulay**

*Outpost 82, Calvary Temple Assembly of God, Fall River, MA*

One of the things that I liked most about Royal Rangers was the opportunity for competition. Although it is not always encouraged, there were plenty of opportunities for healthy competition. On my way to the Gold Medal, my brother and I were competing head-to-head. I always like to win, and perhaps it was also this sense of competition that spurred me on.

Another valuable life lesson

I learned is covered thoroughly in the Royal Rangers Motto, "Ready." I have come to a full understanding of what it really means in both a physical and a spiritual sense. I am currently in my 12th year as a Royal Ranger and have been on many campouts. I certainly have a different appreciation of readiness than people who do not camp out often. I have been faced with a deluge of complicated circumstances. About the only thing I have not seen is a tent on fire. But a good Royal Ranger should be prepared for that as well.

I have seen Rangers and commanders come and go. I have seen many people saved, but not every boy accepts Christ as Savior. This is unfortunate. However, it reminds me to make sure that I am doing everything to show as many people as possible how important it is to be ready.

Indeed, I will forever be indebted to the Royal Rangers for bringing me to where I am today. Royal Rangers is an unparalleled organization that should be very proud of its service to young men. I feel privileged to be called a Royal Ranger.

**Stephen Dronan, Outpost 282,**

**"I feel privileged to be called a Royal Ranger."**

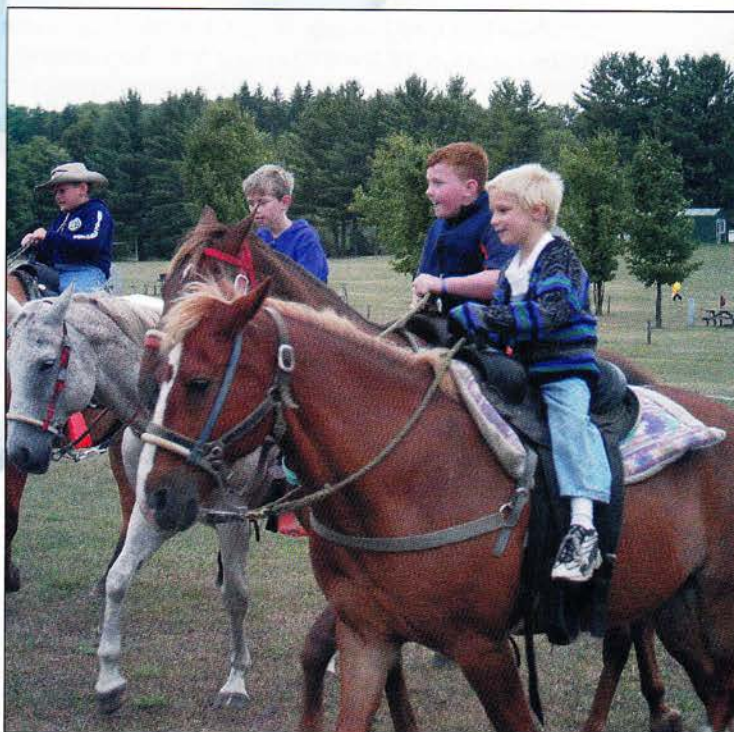
# of Royal Rangers

by Stephen **DRONAN**

Being in Royal Rangers has truly been a time of growth and maturity for me. The program has taught me skills for living that can be carried with me for the rest of my life. Royal Rangers gives me an example of leadership and responsibility seldom matched in our world today.

Being raised in a well-grounded church, I was constantly reminded that with God all things are possible. I had to keep reminding myself of this as I struggled along the way. However, here I am, just a few tiny steps away from receiving the coveted Gold Medal of Achievement. Through my journey, I was faced with a plethora of obstacles. Numerous times I debated the idea of giving up on my quest for the GMA. The physical work was grueling, and the paperwork was tedious. I wanted to reach the pinnacle of the GMA, but I thought at times that it was not worth the work. I was sick of the rebellious Rangers who were there only for the fun and tired of the work piling up on top of all of the other things that I wanted to do outside of Royal Rangers. But thanks to the pushing and prodding of my Royal Rangers commanders, I stuck with it. I did not quit when the work seemed too much to handle.

The most valuable lesson I learned from the Royal Rangers is perseverance. When other things in life seem too stressful and time-consuming, I can reach back into my memory and think of the days when a GMA seemed out of reach. But now I am so close, and it feels good to know that I am nearly finished with all of my work.







# 2001 National Royal Rangers of the Year

SPRINGFIELD, MO — July 26, 2001 marked a milestone in the lives of eight talented young men from around the United States as the national Royal Rangers department hosted the winners of the coveted 2001 National Royal Ranger of the Year (ROY) awards. The young men and their parents were treated to a special awards banquet on Thursday evening where each Ranger of the Year received his medal and a beautiful award plaque presented by National Commander Richard Mariott. On Friday they toured the National Assemblies of God Headquarters and had a barbecue picnic with the national staff. Saturday was a fun day in Branson, Mo. at the Silver Dollar City theme park, followed by an evening dinner and a show at the Baldknobbers Theater.

National ROY recipients receive honorary membership in the National Royal Rangers Council and serve as volunteer members of the national staff for 1 year. Also, each one will have various opportunities to speak at Royal Rangers functions within his region.

These young men deserve special appreciation as we recognize their many years of diligence and dedication to the Royal Rangers ministry. Extensive and arduous competition took place to determine the eight Rangers who won their outpost, sectional, district, and regional competitions. These outstanding young men are:

## SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

**John Flach**, age 16

*Crossroads of Life Assembly of God, Duncanville, TX*

## SOUTHEAST REGION

**T. Gareth Hocker**, age 17

*Christian Fellowship Assembly, Tunnel Hill, GA*

## NORTH CENTRAL REGION

**Grant Jacobs**, age 17

*First Assembly of God, Jefferson, LA*

## GULF REGION

**Andrew Melander**, age 15

*Cornerstone Church, Madison, TN*

## GREAT LAKES REGION

**Arthur Thomas**, age 16

*Canton Calvary Church, Canton, MI*

## SOUTHWEST REGION

**Lucas VanTassel**, age 17

*New Life Church, Colorado Springs, CO*

## NORTHWEST REGION

**Tyler Wright**, age 16

*Ridgeview Christian Center, Spokane, WA*

## GREAT LAKES REGION

**Matt Zumbrum**, age 16

*Bethel Assembly of God, Littlestown, PA*



How has Royal Rangers impacted the Rangers of the Year? Our winners gave various answers, and family bonds are also a common thread through each boy's testimony.

### John Flach

John's family has been a big part of his maturity. "We've always been a church going family, and my parents always helped give us a strong foundation in Christ." He adds, "Through the constant fellowship and accountability found in Royal Rangers, I have been able to draw closer in my walk with God, spend more time praying and reading the Bible, and I have been able to see His power at work in others."

"Another major thing that God has taught me (through Royal Rangers) is that I need to take action for Him. On the North Texas district staff, our motto is, 'Ready to work, work, work, etc.' Through this commitment to action, God has shown me that I need to work for Him."

"Over the last 6 years, [Royal Rangers] has changed everything about me. Through teaching classes and being on the Honor Guard, I have learned to step out and not be shy, which has helped me overcome the fear of rejection when I am trying to witness. It has taught me that I can do great things with God's help and personal perseverance."

"Also, the program has given me the opportunity to create ties with my best friends and many adults. I know I can come to them if need prayer or help. These are only a few ways that Royal Rangers has changed my life."

### Gareth Hocker

Gareth also has strong family ties as a preacher's son and has witnessed God's divine plan in action. "God is first and foremost in everything in our lives. My father is the pastor of a small church, and our family of eight has always been part of the ministry. Love is strong in our home, and God has richly blessed us."

He has learned the value of self-confidence, leadership, and friendship through 12 years in Royal Rangers. "It has given me strong friendships which keep me accountable for what I do. My friends and I wear our uniforms and find that it makes people curious. This makes a great tool for witnessing and meeting new friends."

"[Royal Rangers] has helped strengthen me by encouraging me to read the Bible, giving me good Christian friends, and teaching me how to witness for our Lord. The program also helped me expand my horizons and try new things."

As Gareth reminisces about his training camp experiences, he said, "I hope that [training camp] will encourage my friends to earn the Gold Medal of Achievement by making them realize it's within their grasp." Training camps "show them what the requirements are...and provide good, healthy competition...[so each can] learn about helping others by helping himself."

### Grant Jacobs

Grant feels strongly that his family has been blessed by God. "They encourage me to be all that I can be for Him. I have been given solid and comprehensive training in God's Word from a very young age. I have seen God's Word acted out in my parent's lives."

For over 12 years Grant has been actively involved in Rangers. He states, "My spiritual growth started at home but

was enhanced by the Bible stories in Straight Arrows. Scripture memorization—hiding God's Word in my heart—has become a habit I have kept up all these years. I also started reading the Bible by myself for one of my Buckaroos awards long ago. This, along with prayer, has grown into a daily habit."

"I have been blessed to learn under many wise, godly commanders who have been spiritual mentors to me. As a Pioneer, I started to compete in ROY competitions, and, as I won some competitions and lost others, I learned to stick with my goals and not give up."

So if you are in Royal Rangers remember, "the real reward is not in the medal or in the title itself, but in the diverse skills you learn and the knowledge you gain as you work toward mastering these skills...knowing you stuck to your dream until completion."

### Andrew Melander

"My family makes time for me out of their busy schedules and pays attention to me. They do everything they can to help me to walk with God." Andrew is another shining example of how family can influence a young man.

"Never underestimate what you can do in the life of a boy. If you set a good example for a boy and just be his friend, he'll never forget it the rest of his life. You may not see an immediate harvest, but every day you have the opportunity to plant seeds."

"The advancement system has helped develop me spiritually too. I've learned that being a good Christian isn't so much what you do at church as it is what you do outside of church. That is the real place you need your light to shine."

"[Royal Rangers] has helped build my self-confidence. Every time I earned a new advancement, I was awarded not only a pin, but recognition from my leaders and peers. I have made many friends from my outpost and through Pow Wows, ROY testing, and Camporamas."

"My daily decisions are based on the firm foundation of the Word of God. It will help me make the important choices I'll have to face every day in the future."

Andrew wasn't sure that a 15 year old could win the award over boys much older, but his father told him to give it his best. "He gave me the books, the encouragement, and the motivation that I needed to be confident."

### Arthur Thomas

"I was introduced to Royal Rangers against my will. I had just turned 5 years old, and I can remember crying as Mom said, 'Straight Arrows is fun; they do a lot more stuff than Rainbows.' After only one meeting, I was hooked. My 12 years with Royal Rangers has definitely made an impact on me spiritually. For instance, at the 1995 Michigan District Pow Wow I was baptized in the Holy Spirit. Then I became involved in the Frontiersman Camping Fellowship where God strengthened my life in countless ways."

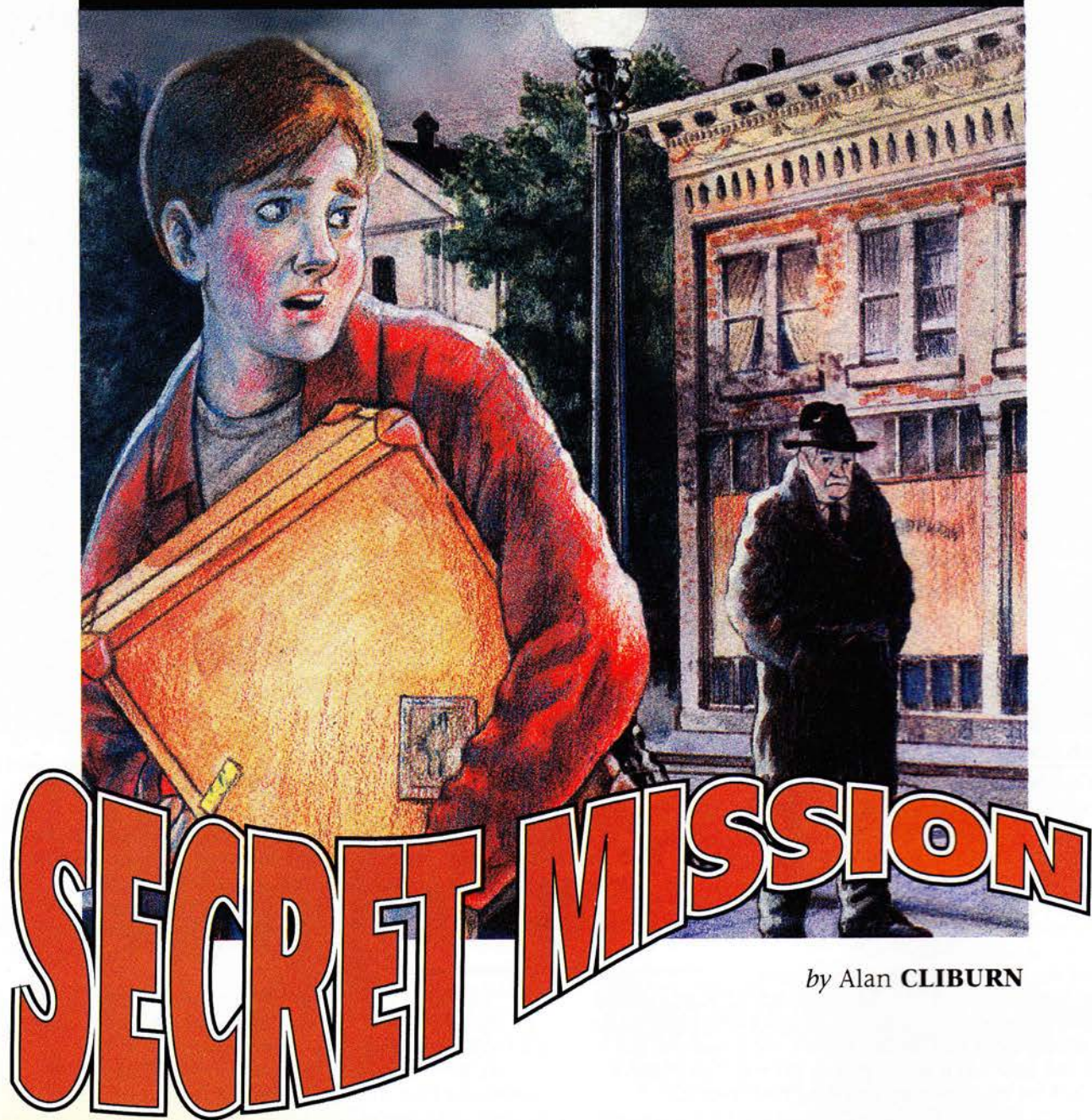
"Rangers has made me significantly more well-rounded. In addition, Royal Rangers has opened up doors for me to reach neighborhood friends. Simply wearing my uniform from the front door to the car has sparked interest in friends who were willing to attend after a brief introduction."

"One day I'm going to stand before God, and I want to be able to say that I gave it my all. If my best attempt wasn't

— Continued on page 14

**"My daily  
decisions  
are based on  
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foundation of  
the Word of God.  
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me make the  
important  
choices..."**





by Alan CLIBURN

Somewhere in the night a train whistle pierced the silence. I shivered. In five minutes I would be on that train.

"Are you sure you want to go, Otto?" Hans had asked me before I left our headquarters.

"Yes, I'm sure," I told him. "The shipment must go through tonight, and you're in no condition to travel." "But you're so young, Otto," he began.

"Maybe they won't suspect someone so young," I replied, shrugging.

I was young, all right, still a teenager, but I felt more like an 80-year-old as I stood on that platform waiting for the train. Is it really so cold? I wondered. Or am I just scared?

The whistle blew again, and I saw a single

light as the train came through the forest. I was no longer alone. Two or three other passengers, all much older, stood with boxes and sacks in their arms. But are they really passengers? I asked myself. Or are they agents planning my arrest?

Don't be stupid, Otto! I told myself sharply. Anyone can see they are simply farm people on their way to the other side of the border.

I looked like a farm boy myself—and more simple than most.

The train screeched to a stop, and we hurried to get aboard.

"Have your money and ticket ready!" the conductor ordered. I started to walk right past him. "Where's your ticket?" he demanded.



ROYAL RANGERS

# HIGH ADVENTURE

*Leader*

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**SKITS!**



**MUSIC**

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**LAUGHS**

**July 15-19, 2002**

**Eagle Rock, Missouri**







# Training Boys for the Master Ranger

by Philip Bongiorno, Pennsylvania-Delaware District Superintendent

**T**here is no finer program for the training of our boys than the Royal Rangers! It is far better than any boys' program I know because of its spiritual impact on their lives. This is because of the godly male role models that the men who work with the boys give.

In today's world, positive male role models are absolutely essential. Many boys live in single-parent homes where the only healthy father image they have is the local church's Royal Rangers leaders.

Royal Rangers commanders can act as mentors who provide our boys opportunities to grow spiritually, socially, and mentally, which will allow them to be leaders now and as they grow older.

The Royal Rangers program has been advantageous in our fellowship because it provides an entry point for our boys and their fathers into God's kingdom and the service of the church. The teaching they receive in the church instills godly values that will last for a lifetime.

It also develops a discipline that has far-reaching benefits such as:

- a good work ethic
- emotional stability
- wise stewardship
- faithfulness to church
- willingness to serve
- respect for others
- loyalty to the church
- good citizenship
- respect for the law
- and respect for authority.

Royal Rangers provides a place where our boys can develop life-long friendships. I have seen this happen in our churches and in my own family. Boys who have grown up in the Royal Rangers program have maintained healthy friendships through the years.

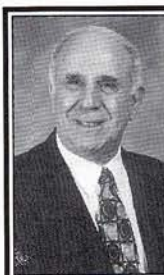
Our District Royal Rangers Commander Joe Finan says, "The

Penn-Del Royal Rangers ministry has a bonded fellowship of leaders and boys that strives for excellence and greatness for the Master Ranger. The most difficult part of Royal Rangers is waiting in anticipation for the next camping experience. Our leaders and boys have a great time when they get together for a time of worship, learning, fun, and fellowship." The successes of the Penn-Del Royal Rangers throughout the years have made it possible for them to purchase a 136-acre farm in central Pennsylvania. It is the place our Rangers call home.

There is nothing dull about the Royal Rangers program. Royal Rangers love to be involved in archery, boating, backpacking, swimming, and other high-energy activities. All are part of the high adventure that boys love. These activities also develop the boys' appreciation for our planet and the majesty of God's creation.

Most of all, I love and appreciate the Royal Rangers program because it teaches them about God's salvation provided through His Son, Jesus Christ. It is one of my highest joys to attend Royal Rangers programs and read the reports of local, sectional, and district leaders telling of the hundreds of boys who have accepted the Lord Jesus

Christ as their Savior. Many of these boys saved early in life go on to a lifetime of serving God and the church. Many of them become Royal Rangers leaders, board members, Sunday school teachers, youth leaders, and preachers of the gospel. Thank God for the Royal Rangers!



Reverend Philip Bongiorno is the superintendent of the Pennsylvania-Delaware District Council of the Assemblies of God, a position of leadership in which he is serving his twenty-third year. He has directed this district in the development of a serviceable conference center near Carlisle, to create the Pennsylvania-Delaware Loan Fund and the construction of a new administrative office. God has used him to make the district strong and progressive. He and his wife, Janette, reside in Hampton Township, PA.





# Penn Del Royal Rangers Campground

by Joe FINAN, Penn-Dell District Commander

**A**s tradition would have it, through the years, two district RR roundtables are held for the Penn-Del staff leaders annually. Men and women from our 12 sections, representing two divisions, come out and take an active part in future event planning, training, and sharing of thoughts and ideas.

I think the straw that broke the camel's back (regarding our dream for a Penn Del RR campground) was when we rented a camp for a 2-day pow wow. Our final cost was nearly \$2,000.00.

Our eyes were opened to the reality that we were just spinning our wheels renting one camp after another. We needed to lay out a plan to acquire some land that we could call home. Since we had two civil engineers and many business men, building contractors, and skilled tradesman serving on the district RR staff at that time, I was confident we needed to move forward and not procrastinate regarding our longtime dream of having a RR campground.

In late 1998, a property became the target of interest and got the wheels turning. This former dairy farm owned by the Berry family located in Honey Grove, Pennsylvania, was an ideal location—almost in the exact center of the district. In 1999, we held a district RR roundtable on the property under a gospel tent loaned to us by a church in our district. We provided breakfast, lunch, and refreshments. After the business session, we conducted a tour of the 136-acre property in four-wheel drive vehicles in order to gain the support and approval of the Penn-Del staff leaders. We obtained overwhelming support from our leaders on that



beautiful sunny day, and the rest is history.

The property, located on Route 850, includes a 6-bedroom farmhouse, a wagon barn (now our General Store), and a large 75 x 45' barn that houses a large, newly-installed classroom. The Tuscarora Creek runs through the property, which offers great fishing, swimming, tubing, rafting and even panning for gold (some events of the 2001 District Powwow). After receiving approval from the Penn-Del District Council in May 2000, we made the purchase and took occupancy July 1, 2000. Our

immediate plan is to get the property paid for before we venture into any major development.

Financial support comes from our leaders, our churches, businesses and anyone interested in reaching, teaching and keeping boys for Christ. Thank you Lord for delivering our Honey Grove, Penn. "promised land" to the Penn-Del Royal Rangers!







## New Royal Rangers Overseas Coordinator



Recently, the AGWM (Assemblies of God World Missions) Executive Committee approved Reverend Doug Marsh, Missionary to Costa Rica, to fill the position of Royal Rangers Overseas Coordinator. I shared this information at the March National Royal Rangers Council. This position will remain a full-time AGWM Missionary appointment and will require continued missionary financial support. The national staff and I are excited about Doug, his wife Kerry, and family coming to fill this new and historic position. Doug will continue his role in Latin America while in transition and provide guidance to the Ranger leaders in this region.

I asked Doug to provide biographical data for this article. The following is an abbreviated version. His full biography will be printed in a future *High Adventure* magazine.

Doug Marsh was born to pioneer missionaries in Perú. Doug's father proudly pinned his first Royal Rangers emblem on his uniform in Puno, Perú, at a family altar time. Doug was six years old at the time. The weeks of work learning the meaning of each point of the Royal Rangers emblem had given him many opportunities to ask his dad why other boys in Perú didn't get to enjoy Royal Rangers. Each time the question was asked, the answer was the same, "No one has prepared the materials in Spanish." When a patch was pinned to Doug's uniform that morning, he knew he wanted to be a missionary like his parents. Even more specifically, he wanted to be a Royal Rangers missionary so that boys who didn't live in the US could also be involved Royal Rangers.

Doug has earned his Gold Medal of Achievement and attended the first ever, National Training Camp in Latin America, organized by veteran missionary, George Davis. It was at the special NTC council fire that God reconfirmed his call to be a Royal Rangers missionary.

Less than a year later, in 1989, George Davis invited

Doug to move to Springfield and help develop the Spanish curriculum and training programs for Latin America. At that time there were approximately 12,000 Royal Rangers in Latin America. Doug describes the ministry at that time like it was in the time of the book of Judges, when everyone did what was right in their own eyes. A unified curriculum was introduced and training standards were slowly adhered to. After 12 years of a coordinated effort with missionaries George Davis and Eugene Hunt, the ministry has grown to more than 45,000 boys in the 18 Spanish-speaking countries of Latin America.

Doug believes that God has uniquely prepared him for this day and for this opportunity to serve as the AGWM Royal Rangers Overseas Coordinator. He says, "It is going to be an honor to work with Commander Mariott, the nation office staff, the executive committee, and leaders from across the nation. I look forward to mobilizing US Rangers and national Royal Ranger leaders from other countries to equip men all around the world to reach and disciple boys for Jesus Christ. Today's boy is tomorrow's man, and the best time to train up a man is while he is still a boy. The purpose of our coordinated efforts will be fourfold:

1. To write (or strengthen) culturally relevant curriculum in each region of the world;
2. To establish regional training programs and standards around the world;
3. To erect strategic training centers around the world;
4. To create an environment of support in which Rangers can flourish in every corner of the globe."

Doug and Kerry Marsh have been married since 1992, and have two awesome children. Jonathan is four, and Katelyn is two. Please keep all of them in prayer as they move from Costa Rica to Springfield next May to assume these responsibilities.

It is important to remember that they will retain their foreign missions appointment, as they will not receive a salary or a budget from the national Royal Rangers office. They are counting on your continued faithful support and prayers as they serve Rangers all around the world!

Join with us to continually hold Doug and his family up in our prayers. We also urge you to contact Doug and express your sincere appreciation and support. Again, we are excited about this tremendous opportunity!





*The Biggest and  
Best Event Ever!*

# Camporama 2002



*by Rich Mariott, National Royal Rangers Commander*

**T**he national Royal Rangers have had an incredible year in 2001. The curriculum team has been very busy writing and developing the new curriculum coming in 2002. Other ideas have been thought through and carried out to prepare us for another incredible year—such as improvements to the campground and our 2002 "big event"—National Camporama!

There are many new and exciting things you can experience at Camporama 2002—too numerous to list, but I've included a few of the things we have been planning. Many improvements to the campground will be

ready for you too.

#### **EAGLE ROCK CAMPGROUND UPDATE**

The campground improvements for the Camporama are coming together!

These are some of the improvements to help make your CAMPORAMA 2002 the best it has ever been:

1. Roads and access within the campground increased to accommodate the largest ever Camporama
2. Three locations where meals will be served: Everyone registering will receive an ID badge, that will have a place for your meals to be punched. This ID badge will be required to be worn at all times. It will give





access to your camp location, contain medical history, and other information if needed. Your ID card will reflect the meal tent where you get your meals to help balance the meals being served at each location.

3. A Tram service to help get you from campsites to events and activities: "The Large Field in Front of Johnnie Barnes Lodge". Trams will be running from the Visitors Center to the main activities field to help our visitors and guests. It will also help people to get to the parking lots.
4. New rifle range (100x400 feet)
5. Many new shower houses with separate facilities for boys and commanders—150% increase from last Camporama.
6. Registration and Visitors Center to coordinate all the camp needs: Everyone will register, including visitors, and receive an ID badge.



### CAMPORAMA IS EXCITING

Set your sights on the new BMX Course. Climb onboard for the ride of your life. BMX bikes will travel a challenging course as boys try to set the fastest lap timed for their age groups.

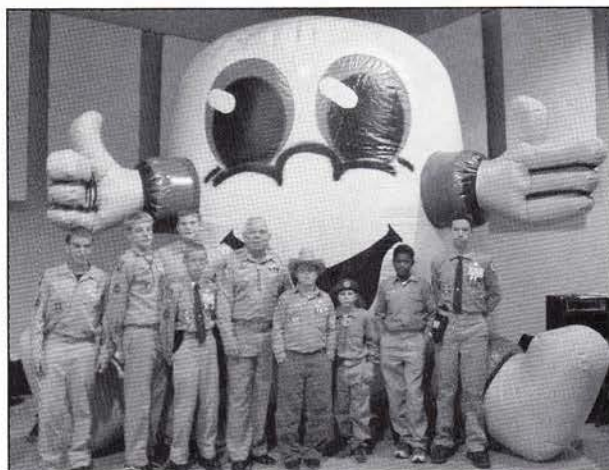
A challenging Mountain Bike Course is waiting for Rangers to navigate through rough terrain, uphill and downhill, for a great challenge as boys go for the fastest lap timed event.

A Daisy BB Gun National Championship Match will be held on Tuesday. District teams will compete for the national match. Wednesday and Thursday the BB gun range will be open for non-competitive shooting.

Each district will provide specific activities in the event/activities field. These activities will be exciting and fun for boys. Some of the national-sponsored activities and events will be:

- B-B Air Gun National Competition—For district teams, sponsored by Daisy B-B corporation

- National Pinewood Derby Racing—bring your car and race in your age bracket and overall championship. Refer to the national Pinewood Derby rule book.
  - Paintball Range—Old West paintball course to challenge you
  - BMX—Bicycle motocross course competition for each age group
  - Mountain Bike—Timed mountain course for age group competitions
  - Archery—Competition and just for fun, to learn the basics of bow and arrow shooting
  - FCF Village—A complete FCF village with tipi, wall tents, and lean-tos. The village will have many outdoor skills, trades, and activities for the boys to participate in or to view how it was done in the past.
  - Low Climbing Wall—Safe, yet challenging
  - High Ropes Course—Available for older boys
  - Water Activities—Swimming pools for cooling off in the summer time
  - Tickets for Hot Air Balloon Rides—To be given at free drawings during regional devotions
- Many promotional booths and activities will be set up for everyone to visit such as:



- BGMC booth—See Buddy Barrel, participate, and see how to earn the new BGMC merit.
- LFTL booth—Come by the Light for the Lost booth and become a Jr. LFTL member. Hear about the Royal Rangers overseas that LFTL has been able to help with your Royal Rangers LFTL funds.
- Foreign delegates booth—Come and meet the Royal Rangers from other countries who will be there to trade hat pins and patches and visit with you.





Boys and commanders will want to collect the hat pins, patches and earn colored beads for the Camporama activity patch.

The Royal Rangers Trading Post will have many new and collectable items and memorabilia.

- Special patch sets like the Limited Edition New Program Patches
- New program T-shirts
- Camporama bolo tie
- Special "limited" Camporama bolos, patches, and medallions
- Many different mugs and cups
- Hats
- Medallions
- Special Camporama postcards
- Camp Map bandana
- Camporama Jungle hat, boonie
- Royal Rangers 40th Anniversary collectible items
- Newly-designed Camp Eagle Rock shirts and patches
- Royal Ranger CDs
- "READY" Mouse pad



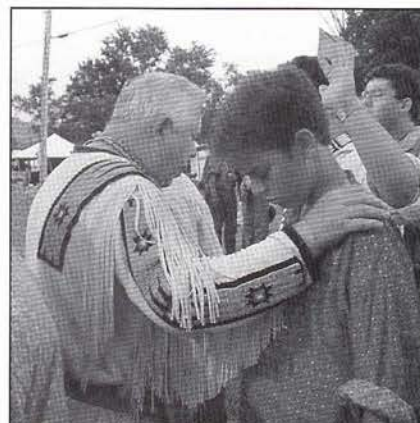
- Camping items, just in case you break something or leave it behind
- Cameras and film
- Toys: gliders, kites, glasses, and much more



### Exciting Council Fire Services

Monday evening will be the Big Kick Off with opening ceremonies which include districts with their district flag and honor guard coming by the stage for review. Reverend Thomas Trask, general superintendent, will be addressing the Camporama in the opening ceremonies. We will have exciting music, songs, and pageantry.

Each council fire will host challenging spiritual messages from nationally known speakers: Monday, Jim Barger, national RR president; Tuesday, Freddie Espinosa; and Wednesday, Rich Mariott, national commander. The final night will be open to visitors and guests to attend as Reverend Terry Raburn comes to give a final message and charge followed by a special candle-lighting service and fireworks display.







## CAMPS BY TYPE

### FOR YEAR 2002

#### NTC

— 1 —

JANUARY 24-27, 2002  
Camp Wilderness  
Fort Meade, FL

— 2 —

APRIL 11-14, 2002  
A/G Camp Woodworth  
Woodworth, LA

— 3 —

MAY 16-19, 2002  
Mt. Lassen Camp  
Mineral, CA

— 4 —

AUGUST 22-25, 2002  
ABC Camp  
Weston, OR

— 5 —

SEPTEMBER 5-8, 2002  
Pinecrest Conference Center  
Twin Peaks, FL

— 6 —

SEPTEMBER 5-8, 2002  
Lost Valley Bible Camp  
Gaylord, MI

— 7 —

SEPTEMBER 5-8, 2002  
Camp Eagle Rock  
Eagle Rock, MO

— 8 —

SEPTEMBER 5-8, 2002  
Camp Roosevelt (BSA)  
Woodstown, NJ

— 9 —

SEPTEMBER 19-22, 2002  
Guadalupe Christian Camp  
Carlsbad, NM

— 10 —

SEPTEMBER 19-22, 2002  
Camp Euchee  
Defuniak Springs, FL

#### ANTC

— 1 —

MAY 2-5, 2002  
Camp Asambleas de Dios  
Arecibo, PR

#### WNTC

— 1 —

JANUARY 24-27, 2002  
Lake Placid Campground  
Pillager, MN

#### NCE

— 1 —

AUGUST 15-18, 2002  
Priest Lake & Priest River  
Priest Lake, ID

#### NTT

— 1 —

OCTOBER 10-13, 2002  
Penn-Del District Training Camp  
Honey Grove, PA

#### ACADEMY & ADVANCED ACADEMY

— 1 —

SEPTEMBER 26-29, 2002  
Heartland Conference  
Retreat Center  
Marengo, OH

#### RKTC

— 1 —

MAY 10-12, 2002  
Camp Wilderness  
Fort Meade, FL

— 2 —

AUGUST 23-25, 2002  
ABC Camp  
Weston, OR

— 3 —

SEPTEMBER 13-15, 2002  
Spencer Lake Christian Center  
Waupaca, WI

— 4 —

SEPTEMBER 13-15, 2002  
A/G Woodworth Camp  
Woodworth, LA

— 5 —

SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2002  
Heartland Conf. Retreat Center  
Marengo, OH

— 6 —

NOVEMBER 8-10, 2002  
Family Life Center  
Forsyth, GA

— 7 —

NOVEMBER 1-3, 2002  
Assembly Camp  
Turner Falls, OK

— 8 —

NOVEMBER 15-17, 2002  
Camp Asambleas de Dios  
Arecibo, PR

## National Camporama

JULY 15-19, 2002

Camp Eagle Rock, Eagle Rock, MO





# CAMPS BY REGION

## FOR YEAR 2002



### SOUTHWEST

#### NTC

MAY 16-19, 2002  
Mt. Lassen Camp  
Mineral, CA



#### NTC

SEPTEMBER 5-8, 2002  
Pinecrest Conference Center  
Twin Peaks, CA

### SOUTHEAST

#### NTC

JANUARY 24-27, 2002  
Camp Wilderness  
Fort Meade, FL



#### ANTC

MAY 2-5, 2002  
Camp Asambleas de Dios  
Arecibo, PR



#### RKTC

MAY 10-12, 2002  
Camp Wilderness  
Fort Meade, FL



#### NTC

SEPTEMBER 19-22, 2002  
Camp Euchee  
Defuniak Springs, FL



#### RKTC

NOVEMBER 8-10, 2002  
Family Life Center  
Forsyth, GA



#### RKTC

NOVEMBER 15-17, 2002  
Camp Asambleas de Dios  
Arecibo, PR

### GREAT LAKES

#### NTC

SEPTEMBER 5-8, 2002  
Lost Valley Bible Camp  
Gaylord, MI



#### NRRA

SEPTEMBER 26-29, 2002  
Heartland Conference Center  
Marengo, OH



#### RKTC

SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2002  
Heartland Conference Center  
Marengo, OH

### GULF

#### NTC

APRIL 11-14, 2002  
A/G Camp Woodworth  
Woodworth, LA



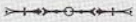
#### NTC

SEPTEMBER 5-8, 2002  
Camp Eagle Rock  
Eagle Rock, MO



#### RKTC

SEPTEMBER 13-15, 2002  
A/G Woodworth Camp  
Woodworth, LA



#### NAT'L CAMPORAMA

JULY 15-19, 2002  
Camp Eagle Rock  
Eagle Rock, MO

### SOUTH CENTRAL

#### NTC

SEPTEMBER 19-22, 2002  
Guadalupe Christian Camp  
Carlsbad, NM

#### RKTC

NOVEMBER 1-3, 2002  
Assembly Camp  
Turner Falls, OK

### NORTH CENTRAL

#### WNTC

JANUARY 24-27, 2002  
Lake Placid Camp  
Pillager, MN



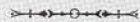
#### RKTC

SEPTEMBER 13-15, 2002  
Spencer Lake Christian Center  
Waupaca, WI

### NORTHEAST

#### NTC

SEPTEMBER 5-8, 2002  
Camp Roosevelt (BSA)  
Woodstown, NJ



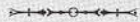
#### NTT

OCTOBER 10-13, 2002  
PA/DE District Camp  
Honey Grove, PA

### NORTHWEST

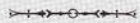
#### NTC

AUGUST 22-25, 2002  
ABC Camp  
Weston, OR



#### NCE

AUGUST 15-18, 2002  
Priest Lake & Priest River  
Priest Lake, ID



#### RKTC

AUGUST 23-25, 2002  
ABC Camp  
Weston, OR





# September 11, 2001

Notes from the Editor

September 11, 2001 was a day that will be remembered for a long time; a day of extreme emotion and passion. Many questions remain about the act of terrorism on American soil . . . questions that may or may not have an immediate answer.

The boys in your outpost will inevitably ask questions about the event during your weekly meetings. You as a commander will also have questions. What do you say? What do you do? How do you react?

What we say to ourselves, our leadership or to the Royal Ranger boys in our outpost, is "peace." Our God is not the author of confusion or fear but of peace and a sound mind. Colossians 3:15 says, *"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom and as you sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."* His peace will calm the troubled heart in these trying times.

Amidst all of the confusion and pain that surrounds terrorism, we must give our boys hope. There are reports

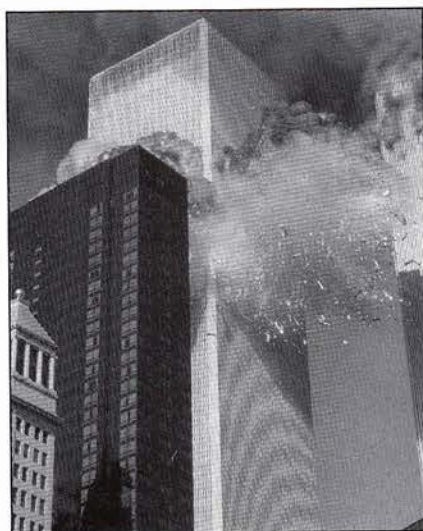
of boys experiencing nightmares over the situation. Philippians 4:8 is a good example of how to clear our minds of distractions and fears. *"Brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have*

*learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you."* How wonderful! If we do what the Scripture has encouraged us to as we minister to the boys, He will give us His peace. That's a promise from His holy Word.

Further, be in constant prayer for our nation, our national, state and local leaders, your outpost leaders, the Royal Rangers under your leadership, and your church body. *"I urge, then, first of all, that requests, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness,"* 1 Timothy 2:2. Let's use this wrongful

act to bring about a spiritual renewal in our nation, our local church and in our community!

Finally, *"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus,"* 1 Thessalonians 5:17.



January 8, 2001

We at Urban Outreach again wish to thank and encourage you for the blessings we received from you in the early summer of the *"The Last Best Thing"* booklets.

With the mobility we have in the Gospel Truck, it has been great to have this booklet available to distribute to the different communities we minister in. This tool gives us a great chance to have one on one contact with those who attend the outreaches and allows us to minister to them. This has given us numerous opportunities to finally pray for individuals for personal needs and to receive the Lord as Savior.



*"The Last Best Thing"* not only allows for the initial contact, but is also the book of choice for the new convert. It becomes their daily devotional as they develop and learn about this Jesus they've just accepted as Savior. So we thank you for this double-edged sword you've supplied us

with, to do battle in the streets of SE Washington D.C.

May the Lord increase His blessings to you all throughout this New Year as you labor in the Lord's harvest fields.

Your Co-laborer in Christ,

David A. East

Urban Outreach, Inc., Washington, D.C. 20019





# Kenya's First National Royal Rangers Academy

by J.R. Gould, *National Royal Rangers Commander, Kenya, East Africa*



The quiet campus was interrupted by sheepish giggles and outlandish laughter while the mis-hits and pounding of tent stakes revealed awkward efforts of beginning campers. Nervous, but tremendously excited, they would spend the next four nights outside, most for the first time.

No, this was not a new outpost trying recently acquired skills learned in a Wednesday night Rangers setting. This was to become the first National Royal Rangers Academy conducted in East Africa.

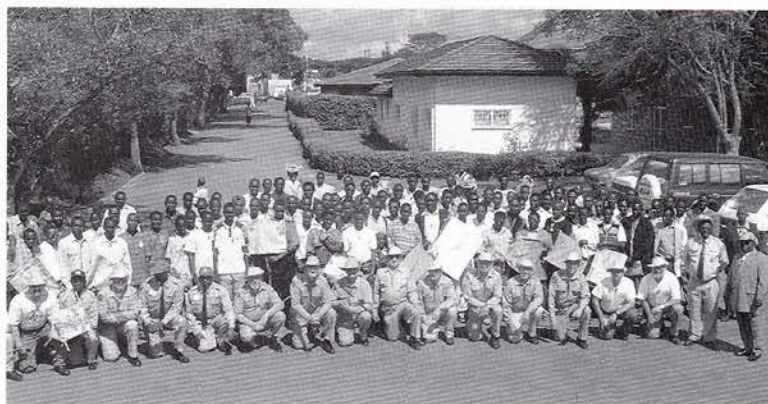
Jim Eubanks, well known for excellent staff recruitment, had directed many successful National Training Camps (NTCs) stateside and internationally. However, leading his staff in Kenya would present a serious challenge. Language barriers would defy communication efforts, equipment was sparse, training tools were not readily available, and cultural nuances would challenge every training subject. Readily accepting the multifaceted task, "Bwana Jim" was not deterred.

Converging in Nairobi, Kenya, the staff would be 13 hand-selected men from six U.S. states. These men would be using their gifts to train 130 Kenyan nationals for Ranger service. The goal: to lay a training foundation for establishing Royal Rangers in East Africa.

In a country where the average man makes \$1 a day, Royal Rangers would need to be developed in such a way that the most distant primitive African villages could successfully have a Rangers ministry.

Working with Kenyan leadership, Missionary J.R. Gould, Kenya's national Royal Rangers commander, had begun strategic planning sessions with Harris Gichuhi, Kenya's national men's ministry director, two years before. All elements of Royal Rangers had to be addressed, including funding, uniforms, advancements, and training. After spending months in development, the training phase would now take place. This U.S. training staff had arrived, ready to serve.

What would a Royal Rangers Academy consist of? The



first step in answering this prevailing question involved developing a teaching plan. South Texas Commander Ralph Williams responded to that challenge.

Curriculum from the Leadership Training Course (LTC), Certified Instructor Seminar (ICS), National Training Camp (NTC), and portions of an Advanced

Training Camp (ATC) were all considered. A teaching plan was tooled out and organized, becoming the basis for the Academy. The staff quickly accepted their training assignments and work began.

Thirty top-level Kenyans, the majority serving as district men's directors, studied in the ICS phase. Seeing overhead presentations for the first time was exciting for the men, and they feverishly took notes. The certification test was a difficult moment for most, but their hard work was rewarded when all 30 men graduated as Certified Instructors.

Royal Rangers training was coming together for Kenya. These men would ultimately take this new ministry to the far-reaching corners of Kenya, even so far as the primitive tribes of the Samburu and Pokot.

The next phase would be the heart of the Academy. One hundred thirty Kenyan men quickly divided up into patrols. Soon, men chanted songs and yells as they moved between different skill-training posts. As awkward as rope tying, axe sharpening, and successful outpost meetings could be, they were a tremendous joy for the trainees.

The evening services around the campfire were spiritually uplifting and freeing for typically bashful and unemotional men. The Holy Spirit confirmed calls into ministry, challenging them to reach out and touch boys for Christ. In the East African culture, children are often forgotten and ignored when it comes to spiritual issues. But this was changing.

Retiring each night to tent homes was only one of many new experiences, but it would be repeated again





and again after leaving the Academy. A new day of ministry was dawning in East Africa.

The graduation ceremony became the crowning moment for the National Royal Rangers Academy. His joy and pride unable to be contained, Kenya's General Superintendent Peter Njiri handed out the certificates. A dream he had carried for years was coming to fruition, and the Kenya Assemblies of God had begun a new ministry—one that would touch tens of thousands of boys for Christ.

Weeks after the last tent had been packed, the Academy was over, and the men had been sent to the field, the impact began to be felt across the country of Kenya. The reports are overwhelming.

Here are some of the responses: "My Royal Rangers group has grown from 8 to 79", "There have been approximately 200 boys in my group in recent meetings," "My church has added several families recently due to Royal Rangers," and "Other churches in my village have their boys attending our Royal Rangers ministry."

The National Director of Men's Ministry, Harris Gichuhi stated, "Royal Rangers has taken our organization to a higher ministry level than ever before. Other denominations are coming to us, asking how we have developed ministry for boys. They are seeing the Kenya Assemblies of God as leaders on the cutting edge of ministry to youth in East Africa."

The Kenyan General Superintendent commented, "Approximately 17 million of Kenya's population is under the age of 15, resulting in a great opportunity for Kenya's Assembly of God churches to provide spiritual ministry to our country. Royal Rangers has come at the right time for Kenya. It is helping our churches grow by involving laymen in ministry, adding families to our churches, and giving our children hope. We are indebted to and are thankful for our friends in the U.S. who are helping us rise to this great challenge."

The U.S. staff returned home, but not before receiving well-deserved gratitude and assurances of love and prayers from their new Kenyan friends. Royal Rangers makes a difference wherever it is presented. Other foreign fields await their first Royal Rangers training event. Maybe the Holy Spirit is speaking to you to consider helping in the next National Royal Rangers Academy held in a Third World country. How will you respond?



## The Perfect Commander...

*By Jim Seagroves, Tennessee District Commander*

The commander arrives early to greet the boys of his outpost. He knows each boy's parents and home situation. The boys are comfortable talking to their commander, because he is their friend and shows a personal interest in them. The commander is always prepared with a lesson and helps each boy on his advancements. He plans exciting outings such as camping and fishing trips for the outpost. He builds interest in the Royal Rangers program by presenting it in such a way that the boys can't help but enjoy it. His uniform is in top-notch condition; patches and awards are placed properly. It is always clean and pressed. His shoes are clean and polished. He presents a proper image to the boys of his outpost; one they can look up to and aspire to imitate.

The commander is always striving to be a better leader. He attends all of the seminars and training classes that teach and equip him to lead his outpost in an efficient and improved manner. He wants his outpost to be the very best it can be.

The commander is faithful to his church and to Christ. He attends all the functions he can and encourages the boys to do the same. If any of the boys need transportation to church he sees that they have it. The boys see him regularly praying at the altar. They have seen him crying unashamedly, worshiping and praising the Lord. He has spoken with all of the boys in the outpost concerning salvation and has been privileged to lead many of them to the Lord.

The boys see the commander treating his wife and children with love and respect. He is always positive in his conversations concerning them. He takes time to be with his family and is an excellent example as the spiritual leader of his home. Family devotions are the 'norm' for he and his family.

Does any of this sound familiar? Does it sound like you? I'm afraid it doesn't sound like too many of us. There just aren't too many "perfect" commanders, but there are those of us who are striving to be. We may do some of those things, if not many of them, but we are doing them to the best of our ability. Commander—that is what it's all about! Just doing the best with what we've got, and trusting the Lord to see us through each day.



# You Might Be A Royal Ranger If...

by Various Royal Rangers

- Half of your living room decorations go to Rendezvous with you.
- You decide to lash together the new deck on the back of your house.
- You plan to serve foil meals at your next dinner party.
- You walk the streets in broad daylight with a coffee cup and flashlight hanging from your belt.
- You didn't mind losing power to your house for 3 days.
- Your son hides his copy of Adventures in Camping from you.
- Your plans for remodeling the bathroom include digging the hole deeper.
- You trade your 25-foot center console fishing boat in on that great little 15-foot canoe.
- You managed to find that eighth day in the week.
- You disconnect the automatic dishwasher in favor of the "three-pot method."
- You light your fireplace using flint and steel.
- Latrines at camp start becoming comfortable.
- You gave your wife a mummy bag rated for -15 degrees for Christmas.
- You name one of your kids Deaver.
- You can recite the Royal Rangers Code backwards in order in 2 seconds flat.
- You bought 10,000 shares of Coleman stock on an inside tip they were about to release a microwave accessory for their camp stove line.
- You plan to get rich by writing a best selling Dutch oven cookbook.
- You took a chemistry course at the local college to help you develop a better firestarter.
- The height of your social season is the district recognition dinner.
- You are convinced the center of the universe is Camp Eagle Rock.
- You spend hours on your knees praying for boys.
- The only color beads you use on your FCF outfit are gold, red, and blue. (William A. Zerby)
- You carry a cut-and-chop card. (Victor)
- If you make your kids say, "Thank you," when passing the bread and butter knife (Ben Newby)
- Your summer vacation includes a trip to National Council, Camporama, or Rendezvous. (Victor)
- You own at least one Fred Deaver original. (Victor)
- Your pastor tells you that he doesn't want a real campfire in the sanctuary while you conduct a Council of Achievement. (John Cates)
- You bookmark the RangerDJ Web Site as one of your "favorites" on your web browser. (John Cates)
- Over half of your clothes have a Royal Rangers emblem. (Bruce Pepper)
- You can't hear the word "ready" without breaking out into the whole Royal Rangers Motto while those non-Rangers stare at you as if you have lost your mind (Tim Cooper, West Florida District)
- Your wife burns your dinner and you say, "Hey, this is just like camp food!" (Charlie Coon)
- Your son's Pinewood Derby car looks better than the new 2000 model Chevys. (Charlie Coon)
- You enjoy roasting marshmallows with your toaster oven. (Josh Hannum)
- You spend part of your vacation time from work at District Pow Wow. (Steve Roberts)
- You spend your honeymoon at a District Pow Wow. (Phil Clark)
- You call your parents, "Commander." (Travis Spuhler)
- You dad checks your gig line before you leave for school. (Travis Spuhler)
- You bought your newborn grandson a Royal Rangers uniform (Don Schoenheide)
- You ever had to pitch your tent in the rain. (Noel "Spirit Rider" Bell)
- All you want for Christmas is camping equipment. (Mike Dishman)
- Your pastor won't let you shoot your smoke pole in the sanctuary (RangerDJ)
- You own more than six bolo ties (David Hedberg)
- You won't go out with a girl unless she can quote the Rangers Code. (Tim Cooper)
- You traded off your mom's personalized picture for an Ohio State Rangers pin at National Camporama (TC)
- You can't find a drop light, but you can find a Coleman Lantern (Philip Gschwend)
- You caught a nice trout on your self-made "Ranger-fly" (red, gold, and blue, of course). (Morten Hougaard)
- You do more work on your GMA than you do your schoolwork. (Randy Montz)
- You trade Pow Wow patches instead of baseball cards! (Michael "Little Crow" Crowley)
- Your family game room is decorated with 20 years of Royal Rangers patches and pictures. (Tony LaBounty)
- You have purchased Altoids mints only to get the can to make your char cloth with. (Tim Cooper)
- You can't pass up a flea market or yard sale hoping to find that "final" piece for your FCF outfit. (Tim Cooper)
- You tell all the new mothers in the church who have baby boys to start working with them on "The Rangers Pledge." (Tim Cooper)
- Your mom or your wife knows the regulations for sewing the patches on your uniform by heart. (Commander Dave)
- You are never lost in the woods, but just a "mite confused" for a while. (Robert Simmons)
- Your whole family is black-powder certified. (Stan Decker)
- You bring a nice big coffee carafe to Pow Wow, but forget all the coffee (We love you Bridgewater!). (Jeff Mayhew)
- The words "most miserable" and "fun" are used to describe the same memorable campout. (Darryl Frith)
- You wake up at camp to your senior commander singing "Oh What a Beautiful Morning" using the voice of Kermit the Frog. (Leah Crockett)

Submit your own "You Might Be a Royal Ranger If..." at  
<http://www.rangerdj.com/bearanger.html> or [royalrangers@ag.org](mailto:royalrangers@ag.org)





# Devotionals for Boys

by David Boyd

## OBJECT LESSON ONE

### Eyewitnesses

In the middle of your lesson, have a worker run through your room, in one door and out the other. Be sure their face is covered so the children cannot tell who they are. Choose three or four children to be "testimonial witnesses." A witness is someone who can explain what they saw, heard, smelled, touched, or tasted. What was that person wearing? How tall were they? Were they carrying anything? Explain to the children that they are witnesses as to what happened. Explain that on the Day of Pentecost in Acts chapter two, foreigners from all over had gathered and they were witnesses of what happened when the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit. What do you suppose these foreigners told their family and friends? Allow the children time to discuss this. Bring your worker back in to see how closely your "testimonial witnesses" described the intruder who came into the room.



Testimonial evidence refers to statements from people who were victims, witnesses, or suspects. Physical evidence is something that you can see, hear, or touch. Both types of evidence are referred to in the Bible concerning the outpouring of the Spirit. Acts 2:1-12 tells about what happened when the Holy Spirit was first given to the group of people gathered in the upper room. After the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, a crowd of people gathered outside because of what was happening. These people were from countries all over the world. These foreigners spoke many different languages. These same foreigners reported hearing the disciples talking in languages that the disciples didn't understand or speak in. The foreigners understood what the disciples were saying because the disciples were speaking in their languages. The disciples were speaking praises to God in languages they had never learned. Speaking in tongues was a great "physical" evidence that something supernatural had taken place. The foreigners who witnessed what had happened, offered "testimonial evidence" to this great outpouring of God. When people are praying for the baptism in the Holy Spirit today, we watch for the "physical" evidence of "speaking in tongues." Then we can testify—testimonial evidence—that they have been filled.

## OBJECT LESSON TWO

### Road Signs

ITEMS NEEDED: pictures of road signs or drawings on a blackboard or overhead

Show the children a stop sign. What does this sign mean? (Stop.) Show the children a "curve ahead" sign. What is this sign trying to show you? (That there is a curve ahead.) Signs are like evidence. A sign shows you what you need to know. Evidence shows you what you need to know. What sign will show you that you have been filled with the Holy Spirit? The answer of course is speaking in tongues.

Choose children to read (sound out) these first two phrases (you can print these out on sheets of paper or put them on an overhead).

Phrase #1: Kwa maana jinsi hii Mungu aliupenda ulimwengu, hata akamtoa Mwanawe pekee, ili kila mtu amwaminiye asipotee; bali awe na uzima wa milele.

Phrase #2: Car Dieu a tant aime le monde qu'il a donne son Fils unique, afin que quiconque croit en lui ne perisse point, mais qu'il ait la vie eternelle

Many languages sound funny, but they are still languages. These two phrases are indeed languages. In fact, both passages say the same thing. Now read phrase #3 in English.

Phrase #3 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16 KJV)

The first phrase that was read was John 3:16 in Swahili, which is a language spoken in Africa. The second phrase you read was French. Both of these phrases sounded funny to us, but God understood them. "Tongues" is the physical evidence of being filled with the Holy Spirit. When we speak in tongues, it may sound funny to us, but we are speaking in a real language just like what happened in Acts chapter two. The language the disciples were speaking may have sounded funny to them too because they did not understand the words they were saying. But it didn't sound funny to the foreigners because they understood the words being spoken. These words were the words of a "known" language that others understood.

Let your children know that when they seek God for the Holy Spirit and when they receive it, they will know that they have been filled because of the evidence of speaking in other tongues.





## OBJECT LESSON THREE

### Power tools

**ITEMS NEEDED:** various appliances that run on electricity such as a toaster, can opener, hair dryer, iron, saw, etc.

Let the children see each of these appliances in operation. After you have turned each one on and shown how it is used, ask the children what they all have in common.

The answer of course is that they all run on power. Each of them, although they have different jobs and purposes, runs on power. Without power they would all be useless.

The disciples weren't told that when the Holy Spirit came on them that they would speak in tongues; they were told that they would receive power (Acts 1:8). While speaking in tongues is the outward sign, it's not the main purpose for the baptism in the Holy Spirit. The main purpose of the baptism in the Holy Spirit is to give

you power. The purpose of this power is to help you live for God and to be a witness for Jesus (Ephesians 3:16). The Holy Spirit also works in your life to make you holy (Galatians 5:16-18). These inward changes—power and holiness—will be revealed in your life as you yield to the Holy Spirit. Other people should be able to see this power and this holiness in you as they see the things that you do and say throughout your life.

Invite children to come to the altar and ask God to fill them with the Holy Spirit. Remind them that they are to ask for God's great gift that He promised to them. They will know they have received His gift when they begin to speak in tongues—a language that they do not know. Encourage them to spend time loving and praising God while they are seeking for this great gift.

For those children who have already been filled with the Holy Spirit, ask them to pray with those who are seeking to be filled. Remind them that their prayer language is a wonderful gift in itself to be used when they pray (Romans 8:26).

## LESSON FOUR — SKIT

### Peter & Cornelius

As you tell the Bible story of Peter and the blanket coming down from heaven, have children in your class act it out. Then have them act out the story of Peter going to Cornelius' house and preaching there.

Peter told the crowd that what they were seeing and hearing was the fulfillment of an Old Testament promise (Acts 2:15-18). Peter and the disciples now knew what to look for. When the Baptism in the Holy Spirit happens, the "evidence" will be "speaking in tongues."

The story found in Acts chapter ten concerning Cornelius is one of the most significant stories in the New Testament dealing with the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Until this time the disciples did not know that God wanted gentiles to be Christians too. Tell the story of Peter and Cornelius found in Acts chapter 10 verses 1-48.

Explain to the children that Peter himself wasn't sure if these people could become Christians. Hold up a sign or put up an overhead with the question. "Can these people become Christians?" Peter didn't know the answer to that question. Read verses 44-47. Explain that the people believed in Jesus and were baptized in the Holy Spirit. How did they know? What was the evidence? Hold up a sign or put up an overhead which states? "How did they know they were saved and filled with the Holy Spirit?" What is the answer? Put up the answer. "They spoke in tongues!" Tongues is the evidence that the people had been filled with the Holy Spirit. Their exact words were, "The believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the

Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God," Acts 10:45, 46 (NIV).

When someone is filled with the Holy Spirit they will speak in a language that they don't know or understand. Sometimes that language is a "known" language here on Earth like Spanish, French, Italian, etc. But that language will not be known to the person who is speaking it. If it is a "known" language, then other people who know that language will understand what is being said, but the person speaking it will not. There are many instances of missionaries going to other countries and hearing people there speaking in "English" as their prayer language, yet these people do not know English. You may also speak in an "unknown" tongue, or the language of angels. This means that it is a language that only God knows. God wanted people to have an "evidence" so they would know beyond a shadow of a doubt that they were filled with the Holy Spirit. God didn't want people to have to "guess" if they were filled. He wanted them to "know" that had been filled and that evidence is speaking in tongues—a language that is unknown to you.

God taught Peter and the early church that He also cared about the Gentiles. He cared enough about them to make them believers. He proved His love for them by baptizing them in the Holy Spirit. The proof that they were baptized in the Holy Spirit was that they began to speak in tongues. The disciples recognized that the gentiles were saved and filled with the Holy Spirit when they heard them speak in tongues. Tongues was the "outward" evidence.





# Winter EMERGENCIES

By Joan Wiseman, R.N., BSN.

With winter just around the corner, it is time to think of winter emergencies and what can be done if we are involved in one—and how to avoid them.

## Hypothermia

Hypothermia is a condition in which the body temperature drops to below 95 degrees. Those most at risk are the very young, the very thin, those with heart or circulator problems, people who are hungry or tired. Hypothermia is caused by the prolonged exposure to cold, when more heat is lost than the body can generate.

### Causes of hypothermia include:

- Falling into cold water
- Being outside with an uncovered head in cold weather
- Wearing wet clothing for a prolonged period of time, especially in windy weather
- Heavy exertion
- Poor fluid or food intake

### Symptoms of hypothermia

Onset of hypothermia is usually slow: there is usually a gradual loss of mental acuity and physical ability. The victim is usually unaware that he is in a state that requires emergency medical treatment.

### Symptoms include:

- Apathy or lethargy ■ Confusion ■ Drowsiness ■ Weakness
- Loss of coordination ■ Pale cold skin ■ Shock
- Slowing of breathing ■ Slurred speech ■ Uncontrolled shivering

If you are with or find a person who is suffering from hypothermia:

### DO NOT

- Do not assume that a person found lying still in the cold is dead.
- Do not use your own comfort to decide if an area is warm enough, since people respond differently to cold
- Do not attempt to warm a severely hypothermic person without medical advice.
- Do not use direct heat such as hot water, heating pad or a heat lamp to warm the victim.
- Do not give the victim alcohol.

Call 911 if the victim is suffering from hypothermia. In the meantime administer first aid immediately.

### First Aid:

If the victim has both hypothermia and frostbite, give first aid for hypothermia first.

- If the victim is conscious and you suspect hypothermia, get the victim out of the cold. Handle the victim gently; people with hypothermia are at risk for cardiac arrest.
- If the victim is unconscious, check the airway, breathing and circulation and if necessary start rescue breathing, CPR, or bleeding control. If the person is breathing less than 6 times a minute start rescue breathing.
- If unable to take the victim indoors, move the victim out of the wind, cover their head and insulate them from the ground.

■ Once inside, remove wet or constricting clothing and get them into dry clothing.

■ Warm the victim. Covering the head and neck can help do this. Use your own body heat to warm the individual if necessary. Apply warmth to the neck, chest wall, and groin. If the victim is alert and able to swallow without difficulty, give warm, sweet, non-alcoholic fluids.

■ Don't leave the person until medical help arrives.

## Frostbite

Another winter emergency that we may see is frostbite. Frostbite is the freezing of body tissue, usually the skin, which causes loss of feeling and color of the tissue. Ninety percent of frostbite involves the hands and feet; nose and ears are also at risk for frostbite. Children are among the highest at risk for getting frostbite.

There are three degrees of frostbite. First is frostnip. This is evidenced by white patches of skin that feel numb. Superficial frostbite is the next degree. In this only the skin and possibly the tissue directly under the skin is involved. There may be redness of the skin, transient numbness, pain and possibly blisters. People usually recover and do well with both frostnip and superficial frostbite if they get prompt medical attention. The third degree of frostbite is deep frostbite. This involves the skin, subcutaneous tissue and structures beneath the skin. The blood flow may be interrupted to the muscles, nerves, tendons and bones resulting in permanent damage. Factors that increase the likelihood of a person getting frostbite are high winds, tight moist clothing, constrictive clothing, and direct skin contact with frozen metal.

### Treatment

Rapid re-warming and tissue trauma prevention are the first two considerations. Tissue should be re-warmed at 104-108 degrees Fahrenheit until all the affected tissue is flushed. Slow re-warming increases the possibility of tissue damage. Re-freezing should be avoided. Mechanical trauma should be avoided. This includes massage, weight bearing or use of the affected area. Elevate the affected limb and apply Aloe Vera lotion which may increase comfort and limit damage to the tissue. Medical treatment should be sought as soon as possible. Any blisters that form should be left intact. After obtaining medical care treatment will usually consist of pain control, wound care, wound debridement if needed or amputation in severe cases.

### Prevention

Prevention of frostbite is very important because frostbite can lead to cold sensitivity of the affected area, premature closure of the growth cartilage in children, and rarely to skin cancer.

### Ways of preventing frostbite are:

- Know what kind of weather to expect before going out and prepare accordingly.
- Dress in layers of warm, loose, non-restrictive clothing. Wear clothing that will keep moisture away from the skin.
- Water resistant fabrics may be helpful.
- Select well fitting non-restricting gloves and shoes that give your fingers and toes room to move.
- Wear good head and face covering that will help protect these high-risk areas from cold.
- Plan ahead and be ready for emergencies.
- If going out in the cold be sure someone knows where you plan to be and when you plan to return.

Prevention and planning ahead helps to avoid situations that could ruin a wonderful winter outing.



"Ticket?" I repeated blankly.

"You can't ride for nothing!" he barked, stepping my way.

I nodded. "My mother said to give you this."

I handed him an envelope with several bills in it.

I found an empty seat in one of the coaches and sat down, putting my suitcase under my feet. The train was nearly full. One man in particular caught my eye.

He was wearing a black coat and kept glancing in my direction. Does he work for the government? I wondered? Does he suspect something?

I leaned back and pretended to sleep, nearly dozing off for real. I opened my eyes slightly. The man in the dark coat was still looking at me. I yawned and stretched.

The 2-hour trip was uneventful until we crossed the border. At the station, with its bright lights and armed guards, I was grateful for the crowded train. The procedure was slow, but the large crowd meant the search of personal belongings would be less thorough. Or so I thought.

When I was close enough, I saw entire boxes emptied of their contents. I swallowed and glanced at my suitcase. If they found what I was smuggling . . .

"Next!" the officer in charge ordered. "Put your suitcase on the counter!"

"Yes, right away," I answered. But as I lifted it up, the lid flew open, spilling clothes all over the floor.

"Pick them up!" he yelled.

I did as I was told. But as I lifted it up to the counter the second time, the lid flew open again!

"Pick up your things and get out of here!" he ordered.

There were a few snickers from those behind me as I gathered up the clothing and continued to move down the line.

The ordeal wasn't over, though. I held my breath as the officer checked my form and phony I.D. card and stamped my visitor's permit.

"Valid for 24 hours," he warned.

As I started for the exit, suitcase clutched tightly in my hand, I felt relief. Then I glanced back and froze. The man in the black coat was right behind me.

---

**Then I heard footsteps  
and peered through the  
shadows. At first I  
saw nothing, then the  
shape of a man.  
It had to be my contact.**

---

I hurried out the door and straight down the first street. Hans' directions had been exact. Yes, there was the hotel. Two more blocks and I would rendezvous with my contact.

The worst is behind me now, I reminded myself. Two blocks from the hotel there was a little shack, just as Hans had said. My contact would meet me there. The street was deserted, not unusual late at night, and no one was waiting for me.

Then I heard footsteps and peered through the shadows. At first I saw nothing, then the shape of a man. I sighed. It had to be my contact.

As he approached the shed, a light went on in a nearby house, illuminating the man's face. It was the man in the black coat!

I grabbed the suitcase and started running, but knew he was running after me.

"Stop," he shouted. "Friend!"

I tried to swing the suitcase at him, but he grabbed it.

"Otto!" he wheezed. "Do not fight me!"

I stared at him. I hadn't used my real name on my I.D. card or on the visitor's form. "Who are you?"

"Your contact," he replied, "Alex."

"But Hans didn't say you'd be on the same train," I began, my heart pounding.

"I missed the earlier one," he admitted. "Come, we must hurry."

He led the way through the darkened streets. Finally we came to a house near the edge of town, and Alex knocked three times on the back door. No lights came on, but we were led through the kitchen and into a closet with a secret panel.

We inched our way along a narrow passageway until we came to a large room full of people who were laughing and talking.

"This is Hans' friend, Otto," Alex announced. "He brought in this month's shipment without a bit of trouble."

"We were praying for your safety," an old woman assured me.

I knew I was in the right place then, so I opened the suitcase, lifted out the false bottom, and delivered the batch of Bibles. This dedicated group of believers would take the Bibles to other contacts far beyond this border town, fully aware of the consequences of getting caught. I had been a Christian for many years, but I had never fully appreciated my Bible until that night. It was the first of many trips on the night train.



# RASCAL RANGERS

CAMPING?

HAHA HAHA  
HAHA

WHAT  
A  
JOKE.

Camporama  
2002

WHO  
WOULD GO  
ON THAT  
TRIP?

HEY,  
DID YOU SEE  
THE CAMPORAMA  
POSTER?

YEAH,  
I CAN'T WAIT!  
IT'S GOING TO  
BE GREAT!

DON'T  
TELL ME YOU  
GUYS ARE  
GOING?

YOU  
WON'T CATCH  
ME THERE.

SURE,  
YOU SHOULD,  
TOO. YOU'LL  
HAVE A  
BLAST!

BORING.

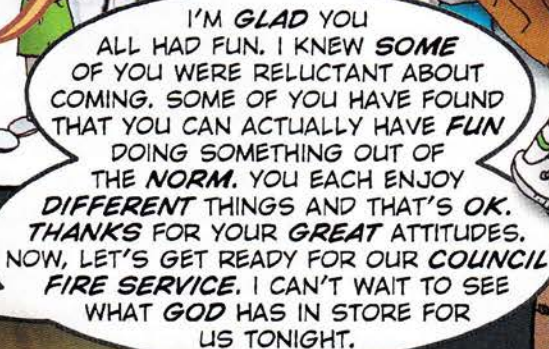
ERIK, YOUR COMMANDER  
CALLED AND WOULD LIKE  
FOR YOU TO GO TO  
CAMPORAMA. I TOLD  
HIM YOU WOULD  
BE THERE.

MOM,  
I'M NOT GOING.  
I HATE  
CAMPING.

NEVERTHELESS...









# The Distant Roar

"Wow! Look at the size of those cat prints!" I exclaimed.

"I don't think those are made from a regular housecat!" Shelton said.

"No? Then what made them?" I asked, half fearing the answer.

Shelton stopped and then slowly looked around him. We were standing on the path that lead to the top of Hawkeye Mountain overlooking the Royal Rangers' property in Eagle Rock, Missouri. Shelton and I had just finished setting up our campsite for the National Camporama when we had seen the eagle soaring high above Hawkeye Mountain. We looked up the mountain and wondered what it would be like to climb it.

"It'll take hours to reach the top!" Shelton said.

"Yeah, but think of the fun and adventure we'll have," I had exclaimed.

So with just a little more discussion, we made the decision, told my dad, Commander Darby Jones, that we were done with our work assignments, and then asked permission to climb the trail to the top of the mountain. Now, 2 hours later, here we were, making the long hike to the top.

**I looked around at the trees and forest. Could the mountain lion be near by? We were halfway up the mountain. It was time to make a decision.**

"I think it is a mountain lion!" Shelton whispered.

"Are you sure?" I whispered back.

"Sure, I'm sure. At least I think so. Look at the paw print. There are the toes, but where are the claws?" Shelton said.

I thought for a moment. He was right. Dogs, wolves, and even raccoons all leave paw prints which show the toes and the claw or toenail. A cat's claw retracts back into the toe. Therefore, they don't leave marks as they walk.

"How big do you think it is?" I asked.

"I don't know. The print is as big as my hand, and look at the distance between its back print and the front print. It is almost 5 feet. I guess it's pretty big!" Shelton said, his eyes narrowing as he tried to imagine how big the cat was.

I looked around at the trees and forest. Could the mountain lion be near by? We were halfway up the mountain. It was time to make a decision. We either turned around and went back to camp, or we pressed on to the top. Or maybe there was yet another option.

"You know Shelton, no one is going to believe that we found these mountain lion tracks." I said still looking around.

"That's for sure. Maybe we could mark



them and bring the rest of the outpost back up here to show them," He suggested.

"I have another idea. Let's take the print back with us!" I exclaimed. Shelton looked at me funny as I dropped my backpack and started to rummage inside.

"What are you doing?" Shelton asked. I ignored him and pulled out my canteen, a cup, and a bottle of craft glue. "Craft glue? Why do you have craft glue in your backpack?"

"I am a helper at one of the craft events," I answered as I poured some water into the cup and then squeezed a big glob of glue in after it. Shelton looked at me as if I had gone nuts. I then grabbed a handful of loose dirt and dumped it in. I used a stick to mix it all into a thick goo and then carefully poured it into the mountain lion's print.

"Now I get it. You made clay!" Shelton exclaimed.

"Exactly! Now, let's finish our trip to the top of the mountain. The sun should help the glue clay harden quickly, and we can pick up the print on the way back down!" I said.

Later that night the entire outpost sat together drinking hot chocolate. Suddenly a roar was heard off in the far distance.

"Commander Jones! What was that?" Bobby asked.

My dad thought for a moment then said, "I'm not sure. It sure sounded big, though."

"Commander Jones! Darby and I know what it is." Shelton said. "It's a mountain lion."

"Yeah, sure it is. There are no mountain lions around here," Bobby said as he quickly looked around into the dark, hoping that indeed there wasn't.



"We have proof!" Shelton said.

"Proof? What kind of proof?" Commander Jones asked.

I then opened my backpack and pulled out the mountain lion paw print. The entire outpost gathered around and oohed and ahed under the propane light. Shelton and I were the heroes of the day. Of course, not a single one of us slept a wink that night. But none of us would have traded that for all the money in Fort Knox!

That's the way it is with adventure. Some of the greatest come from the smallest discoveries. Of course, if Shelton and I had never climbed Hawkeye Mountain, we would never have found the mountain lion print. So I guess the real secret to fun and adventure is deciding to begin it. So what are you waiting for? Your Camporama adventure is waiting! You just need to decide to take it!



even enough to advance to sectional competition, I would have been satisfied because I achieved my goal. The true goal is heaven, not some award, but

## National Royal Rangers

— Continued from page 7 —

if working for that award forces us to grow closer

to Christ, then we've achieved something much greater. Royal Rangers is not in existence to make us big in the eyes of other Rangers, but instead to give an already pleased God even more reason to be proud of us."

### Lucas VanTassel

"I began attending Royal Rangers as a Pioneer and have been actively involved for 6 years. Rangers has impacted me spiritually by demonstrating how to pray, witness, and lead a godly life. It has made me an achiever and given me some of the best friends I will ever have. It has also given me confidence in my leadership abilities and other areas of my life."

How would I encourage other Royal Rangers to strive for earning the Gold Medal of Achievement and compete for Ranger of the Year? "Talk to somebody that has been there before and never give up!"

### Tyler Wright

"My family has protected me, loved me, provided for me, taught me, helped me, and supported me. My father introduced me to Royal Rangers. He was a commander, and I was the right age for Straight Arrows. For almost 12 years Rangers has made an impact on my life. I have more friends and self-confidence because of it. As a witness, my life is a testimony wherever I go."

"I would encourage other Rangers to never, never give up. What matters is whether you learned anything in the process of competing. Always tell yourself that you will try harder next year. Never give up!"

### Matt Zumbrum

"One thing separates us from most other families living in our surrounding area: Jesus Christ is not only present and prominent, but preeminent in our lives and relationships with each other. We love and respect one another while enjoying the time we are able to be together."

"I began Royal Rangers as a Straight Arrow and have been actively involved for 12 years. I was saved and baptized in the Holy Spirit through the [Rangers] ministry. The goal of Rangers—to reach, teach, and keep boys for Christ—has been accomplished in my life."

"Rangers has also made me more disciplined. I am able to set goals and do my best to achieve them. My goal is to give back to other young men what Royal Rangers has given to me, to aid in the promotion and growth of Royal Rangers, and to reach the world one person at a time with God's love."

"I would encourage other Rangers to put Jesus Christ first in everything. Tough times may make it seem like you can't go on. Stick with God and use these experiences, not as a motivation to quit, but as motivation to work harder. Keep Christ preeminent and know that with Him your life will never be the same. He will open doors and opportunities in your life if you only believe and trust Him."

## Galatians 4:4

# Two Letters

## WALKING GAME

MEMORY VERSE PUZZLE: When two letters go walking, only one should do the talking. Write the correct letter in the blank above each pair to spell out the words of this memory verse. As you solve the puzzle, memorize the Bible verse.

<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
JB UE TS	WJ WH AE RN	TS HG AE
<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
TF IE QM EO	HX IA DX	FX EU LW DL YS
<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
NC IO MH EA ,	GM OA KD	
<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
SK EU NH BT	RH UI SV	
<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
SW UO SN ,	DB OI LR NR	EO FT
<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
IA	FW EO MK AI NB ,	BQ OA BR YN
<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
IU NM MD EA LR	LH EA WH ,	
<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
BG AU LM AE YT IU IA MN SJ	4:4	

ANSWER:  
But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman,  
born under law, Galatians 4:4





"It's quiet here. I gave the leaders the wrong directions for a compass problem this morning."

Sign in a pet shop window:

BOXER PUPPY FOR SALE. HOUSEBROKEN,  
FAITHFUL, WILL EAT ANYTHING.  
ESPECIALLY FOND OF CHILDREN.

Have you ever hunted bear?

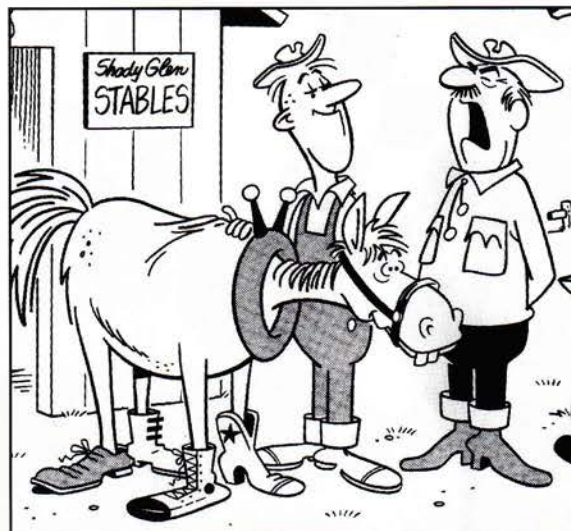
No, but I've gone fishing in my shorts.



"If you can find Scout Lambert, tell him he passed his rope knot tying test."

Farmer Smith: Do you like raisin bread? Farmer Jones: Can't say. Never raised any. I just swallowed a bone. Are you choking? No, I'm serious.

# COMEDY CORNER



"That's not how we shoe a horse, Simpkins!"

What do termites do when they want to relax?

They take a coffee table break.

The most popular sideshow in the circus was a horse that played jazz piano.

A farmer who saw the show was amazed. He asked the horse's trainer how the horse learned to play.

"No mystery," the trainer explained, "he took lessons for years."

Teacher: Why are you crawling into class, Jerry?

Jerry: Because class has already started and you said, "Don't anyone dare walk into my class late!"



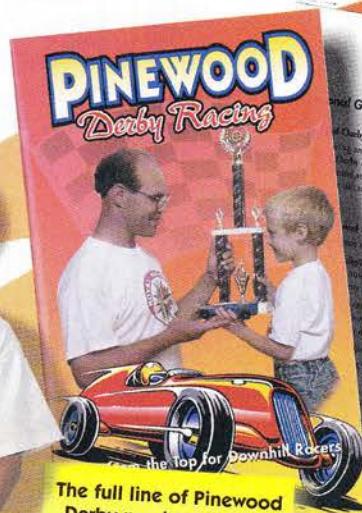
"Dad said to hunt ducks in a blind but I can't see anything."

I went to the eye doctor because I saw spots in front of my eyes. He gave me glasses. Did the glasses help? Yes, indeed! Now I can see the spots much better.



Attention Senior Commander

# GENTLEMEN, START YOUR ENGINES!



The full line of Pinewood Derby products can be found in the Royal Rangers Catalog, on the web, or by requesting the pinewood derby brochure, 75FT2323.

## National Guidelines

Only one national guidelines and specifications for the Derby car. These guidelines and specifications will be used for all regional sanctioned events. Although they are the same, the district level rules in your district may vary.

## Pinewood Derby Car Specifications

Only one car per racing class. The car must be made of wood and not down the track without a car.

4. The car must be made from Royal Rangers kit or other kits that meet the specifications listed under Pinewood Derby Kits. The car must use the parts provided in the kit.

5. The car must be made of wood and not down the track without a car.

6. The car must be made of wood and not down the track without a car.

7. The car must be made of wood and not down the track without a car.

8. The car must be made of wood and not down the track without a car.

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10. The car must be made of wood and not down the track without a car.

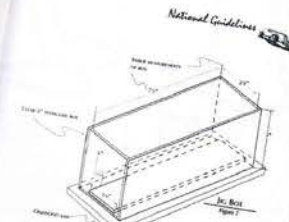
11. The car must be made of wood and not down the track without a car.

12. The car must be made of wood and not down the track without a car.

13. The car must be made of wood and not down the track without a car.

14. The car must be made of wood and not down the track without a car.

15. The car must be made of wood and not down the track without a car.



4. Pinewood Derby cars may be made from Royal Rangers kit or other kits that meet the specifications listed under Pinewood Derby Kits. The car must use the parts provided in the kit.

5. The car must be made of wood and not down the track without a car.

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## Pinewood Derby T-Shirts

Outfit your racers in style with this bright white T-shirt. Features an "Indy style" design and the words "Pinewood Derby—Feel the Excitement!" 100% cotton.

Youth S (6-8)	08FT6400	\$7.99
Youth M (10-12)	08FT6401	\$7.99
Youth L (14-16)	08FT6402	\$7.99
Adult S	08FT6403	\$8.99
Adult M	08FT6404	\$8.99
Adult L	08FT6405	\$8.99
Adult XL	08FT6406	\$8.99
Adult 2XL	08FT6407	\$9.99
Adult 3XL	08FT6408	\$12.50
Adult 4XL	08FT6409	\$16.50

## Pinewood Derby Racing: Tips from the Top for Downhill Racers

Win derby races with a car built like Pinewood "pros." Details how to build a car, a track, and setting up the race. Sample forms also included.

02FT5060 \$2.99 ea.  
10 or more, \$1.99 ea.

## Pinewood Car Kit

Contains all necessary parts for a basic car—soft wood, pine body, black plastic wheels, axles, and screws.

18FT7540 \$2.45

## Acrylic Paint Kit

Provides 6 mini-pots of paint: Red, blue, green, yellow, white, and black. 2 brushes included.

18FT7541 \$1.75

## Strip Weight

Special weight designed to bring derby cars up to maximum race weight. Approx. 2 oz. 99.9% lead free.

17FT5958 \$2.89

## Stick-on Decals

Featuring new designs—vivid colors—high quality—easy to use. All a racer has to do is cut them out, peel them off, and stick them on.

Horse Power. 4 x 5" sheet	14FT7082	\$3.49
Road Rocket. 4 x 5" sheet	14FT7081	\$3.49
Silver Shark. 4 x 2 1/2" sheet	14FT7080	\$2.49



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